



KIMBERLEY-BEACHES NEWS

May 2015

Kimberley Jr. PS & Beaches Alternative PS
50 Swanwick Avenue
Toronto, ON
M4E 1Z5

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PRINCIPAL'S NOTES:

It is hard to believe how fast the school year is going by. Although there are just over eight weeks until the summer holidays, there is still much teaching and learning to be done. Please encourage your child to continue to participate fully to achieve their best through the final part of the school year.

The weeks ahead promise to be very busy for all of us, staff, students and parents. We are getting ready for spring concerts; fundraising initiatives and graduation, as well as maintaining a rich learning environment for all students.

I also take this opportunity to thank all parents and community volunteers for their support and hard work. Our volunteers have been very busy supporting sports events; Eco-School initiative(s) in-class reading; Scientists in the School; Snack and many other enrichment opportunities for our students. We are fortunate to have such enthusiastic support from our community.

We are now in the process of finalizing our teaching staff for the next school year. I will inform you of the teaching assignments for 2015-2016 in June.

Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child or know of a child in the Kimberley district who was born in 2011, it is now time to register for Junior Kindergarten. Please contact the school at 416-393-1450 for more information.

EQAO



Students in grades 3 and 6 will be writing provincial assessments in Reading, Writing and Mathematics starting the last week of May. These tests come from the provincial Education Quality

and Accountability Office and are administered by grade 3 and 6 teachers. This year, the assessments will take place from **Monday, May 25th to Thursday June 4th**. Once again, we remind parents that it is important that students attend school every day during the assessment. If possible, please try to arrange appointments outside of the testing period. We appreciate your cooperation.

As a parent, you can help your child prepare for EQAO testing by logging into www.EQAO.com and searching under the Parent Resources section. Being involved at home is a proven way to help ensure that your child is engaged in their learning!

Lost & Found

Please clearly label lunch boxes; coats; shoes and sweaters with your child's name and homeroom. Every month a huge number of clothing items end up in our Lost & Found. Unclaimed items are donated or disposed at the end of each month.

MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING PARENT SYMPOSIUM

On 9 May 2015, the first annual Mental Health and Well-Being Parent Symposium, "Parents as Partners – Taking Action Together" will take place at Earl Haig Secondary School, 100 Princess Avenue, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. The day will feature workshops for parents that will:

- Increase parent engagement in supporting mental health and well-being of their children
- Raise awareness regarding mental health issues
- Provide an opportunity for parents to gain an understanding of what mental health and well-being supports are available within the TDSB and the community

To register please visit
www.tdsb.on.ca/mentalhealth.

Messages from the Safe and Caring School Committee

1. Now that the warmer weather is upon us, we are asking parents to consider walking to school rather than driving. This will reduce traffic congestion and exhaust emissions around the school and make things safer for our students. Parents are advised that if they do need to drive, the drop off and pick up area is on Kimberley Street, NOT on Swanwick. Your cooperation is very much appreciated. Working together we can make coming to school safer for all our students.

2. The safety of all of our students is our first priority. For this reason we would like to remind parents that if they need to access the second floor during school hours, that they please sign themselves in at the office and obtain a visitor's badge. If it is a matter of arriving late with your child, please sign your child in at the office and notify Ms. Logan. Older students can make their own way up to their classroom. For younger children, arrangements will be made for them to be escorted to their class by a staff member or an older student.

Day of Pink

On April 8th we celebrated the Day of Pink at Kimberley and Beaches. There was a sea of pink throughout the school to support anti-bullying and anti-homophobia.



From our t-shirt sales, we raised \$354.14 for Covenant House Toronto. Covenant House is Canada's largest homeless youth agency. Their mission is: "to serve suffering children of the street, and protect and safeguard all children...with absolute respect and unconditional love". We hope that our donation will provide some support for homeless youth.

Earth Week Book Exchange



Thank you to everyone who donated books for the book exchange, it was a huge success! Every student enjoyed the opportunity to take home at least one new book.

Music Monday

Monday, May 4th is Music Monday across Canada. In 2005 this cross Canada event was initiated by the Coalition for Music Education to raise awareness about the importance of music education in the public school system.

The whole school will gather to sing the Music Monday anthem (We Are One) outside our front doors at 1:00. In fact, this is co-ordinated nation wide. It is a fun event which the kids really enjoy.

Eco School Update

Thank you to all the Kimberley families that helped create four new raised garden beds at the front entrance of Kimberley/Beaches!



A big shout out goes to all the families that helped to make this happen! At least 20 volunteers showed up Saturday, and spent the afternoon creating four beautiful raised garden beds, a rotating compost container, and a large composting bin.



This was no small feat! Volunteers were hard at work for five hours cutting and drilling the 6 x 6 timbers, removing the grass and soil, leveling the earth, hammering rebar to secure the base timbers, hammering spikes to secure each level, and then moving yards of soil into newly built garden beds.

This phenomenal addition to our school was made possible by the members of The Eco Club, a group of dedicated parent volunteers from Kimberley and Beaches. They were able to secure a grant from [Live Green Toronto, a program of the City of Toronto](#), and spent countless hours calculating, pricing and sourcing all of the materials.



Thanks to the expertise and dedication of our volunteers, the project ran exceptionally smooth, and now provides a wonderful addition to the front entrance.



The gardens will now be filled with the vegetables that are growing in the indoor growing station located beside the library. Students and parent volunteers will nurture the gardens over the spring and summer, and harvest the bounty for use in our Snack Program.

A big thank you as well to Centre 55, for allowing us to use their parking lot and power to prep all the timbers for the garden beds.

As one volunteer stated, "it is amazing what you can accomplish when people come together for a good cause". Thank you so much to the following families: the Selschotter, Ennis/Bhatti, Clark, Shelston, Vree families and all 3 generations of the Green family for all of their hard work!

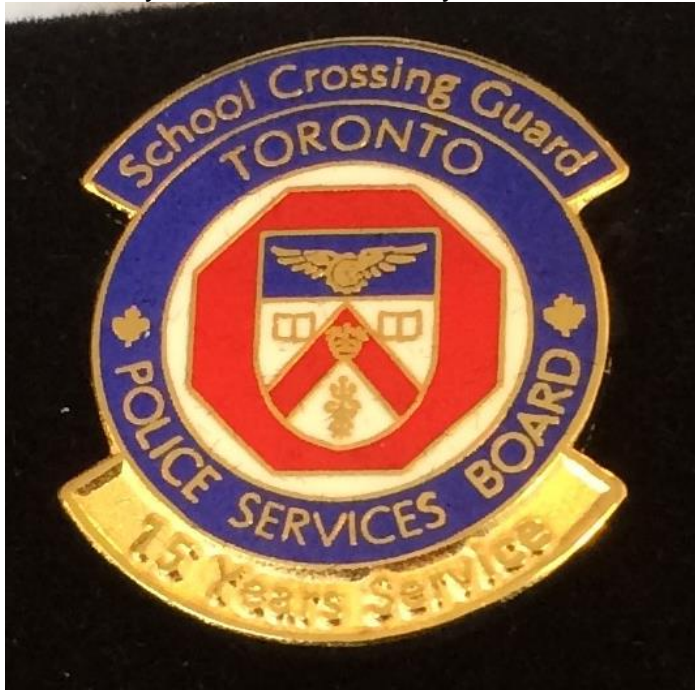
Thank you so much to the Feistner, Wattanabe, Shelston, Vree, Butler, & Adams families for their help cleaning up garbage, raking the gardens and watering our new trees!

Thank you to all the Kimberley families that helped clean up the gardens at the front entrance and along Main St!

A big shout out goes to Trish Feistner and her family for organizing the April 18th, East Toronto Neighbourhood Association (<http://www.east-toronto.ca/>) Spring Clean Up Event at Kimberley JPS.

Celebrating Our Amazing Crossing Guard

Lois Young is the Crossing Guard on the corner of Swanwick Avenue and Main Street outside Kimberley School, and she has just completed 15 years of service on this crossing! On April 15 Lois, along with about 100 other crossing guards, was awarded a commemorative pin in a special ceremony to mark long service to the community, held at Toronto City Hall.



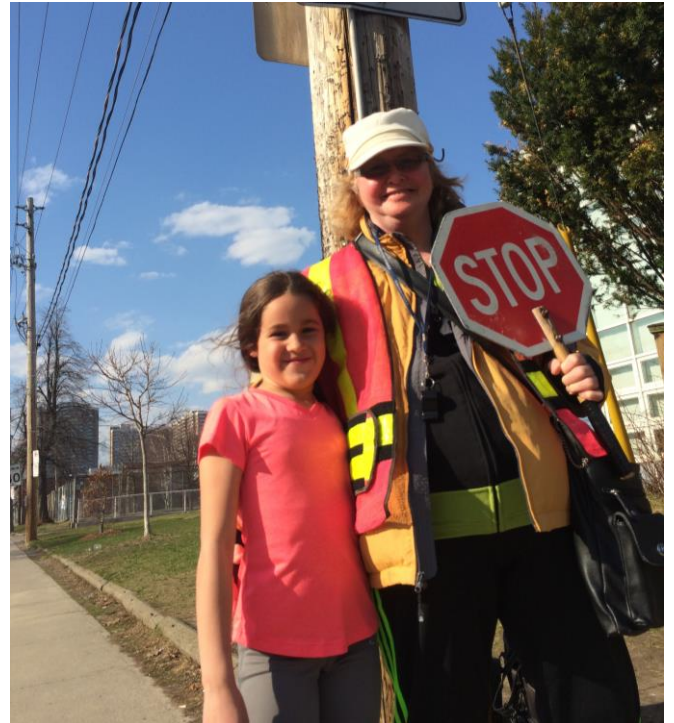
I wanted to find out more about what Lois does and how she feels about being honoured for her work, so I interviewed her.

Alia: How many commemorative pins for long service do you have?

Lois: *"I have 3 from the Police Department, one for every 5 years on duty. Crossing Guards are part of the Police Department. We receive all our training and supplies from them. I also have many other commemorative pins I've earned over the years for different services, including Meals on Wheels and City of Toronto. I keep my 30 pins in a shadow box, and it's special to me because this is what shows: 'Hey – this is my life!' "*

Alia: What was the award ceremony like? Did you meet the Mayor?

Lois: *"Each Crossing Guard went up to receive their award and pin and have their picture taken with the officials. There were dignitaries who spoke and thanked us for the work we do. It was a happy occasion."*



Alia: Do you like being a Crossing Guard?

Lois: *"I like it immensely!"*

Alia: What do you like most about your job?

Lois: *"I like seeing the people every day, and knowing that I'm helping kids safely across the street."*

Alia: What do you like least?

Lois: *"I don't like it when I see infractions of the Highway Act, committed by motorists or pedestrians. I sometimes see people crossing the road between cars, being distracted by their phones while crossing, and drivers who are more interested in speed and personal convenience, and all of that can lead to accidents."*

Alia: How do you motivate yourself to come to work in all types of weather, especially in the middle of winter when it's freezing?

Lois: *"I just check the weather report every morning, and layer-up!"*

Alia: What message do you have for the kids in the neighbourhood?

Lois: *"Always play safe! Always follow the safety rules, wherever you are!"*

Most of us students know Lois by name and say 'Hello' and 'Thank you' to her as she takes us safely over the road. Now I'm glad to say I know more about what she does, and I'm glad that she has received a big 'Thank You' not only from students and parents, but from the City of Toronto as well!

By: Alia in Rm. 201



*Come to our 2015
Spring Concert!*

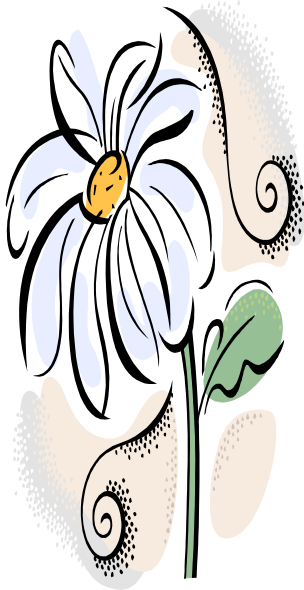
Kimberley P.S.

(in the gym)

Wednesday, May 6

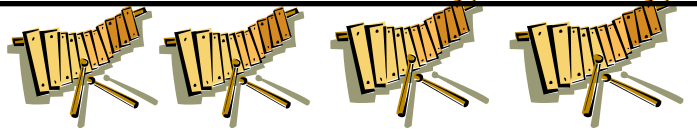
7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

Grades 1 to 6 performing



Hope to see you there

There will be a brief intermission at
7:30 to allow parents of Grade 1/2
performers to leave early.



Spring Concert 2015

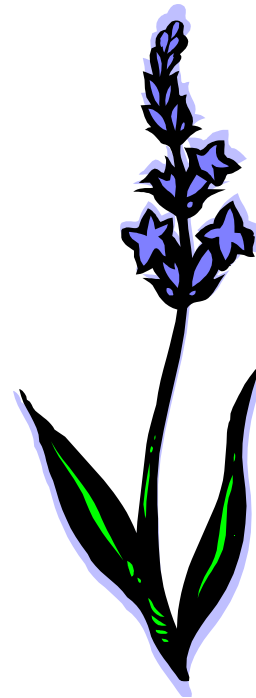
Beaches

Alternative School

Thursday, May 7 6:30pm

Kindergarten to Grade 6 performing

6:00 - Bake Sale and Mingle



Hope to see you there



Dates To Remember

Music Monday	Monday, May 4 1:00pm
Kimberley Concert Gr.1-6	Wednesday, May 6
BAS Concert K-6	Thursday, May 7
Track and Field @ Birchmount	Monday, May 11
School Panoramic Photo	Wednesday, May 13 10:30am
BAS @ Grove AS for performance	Wednesday, May 13 1:00pm
Dental Screening	May 19-22
Kimberley School Council	Monday, May 25
BAS Pizza Lunch	Wednesday, May 27
BAS General Meeting	Wednesday, May 27
Victoria Day (Holiday)	Monday, May 18
EQAO Grades 3 and 6	May 25-June 4
P A Day (No School)	Friday, June 5
Family Fun Day	Thursday, June 11
BAS Gr 6 Grad	Tuesday, June 23
Kimberley Gr 6 Grad	Wednesday, June 24
Last Day of School	Thursday, June 25



SPRING

OUR NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ONLINE

To reduce paper consumption as part of our eco school plan and to improve access to school information we place the monthly newsletters online at the school website.

Beaches Alternative P.S. <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/beachesalternative>

Kimberley Jr. P.S. <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/kimberley>

If you would prefer to receive a paper copy please return this completed portion to your child's teacher.

We would like to continue receiving paper copies of the monthly newsletter

Student's Name: _____ Rm. _____